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**CALIFORNIA IS AWARDED \$14.5 MILLION IN FEDERAL FUNDING TO SUPPORT
SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT SERVICES FOR YOUTH**

SACRAMENTO – The California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs today announced that California was awarded \$14.5 million by the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to support alcohol and drug treatment programs for youth in Los Angeles, Sacramento, Butte, Tehama and Shasta counties.

“Protecting our youth is a top priority,” said Governor Schwarzenegger. “By increasing treatment opportunities, we are investing in our youth to help them succeed in school and become productive citizens who contribute to their communities in a positive way.”

This is the second time California was awarded funds to address youth treatment. Counties will use the funds to build on the California Access to Recovery Effort (CARE) program. The three-year grant, of approximately \$4.8 million per year, will target adolescents aged 12-20 who abuse methamphetamine, are returning to their communities after incarceration, or are adolescent girls in need of services specific for young women. The program will target Los Angeles, Sacramento and extend its reach to rural communities in Butte, Tehama and Shasta hard hit by methamphetamine abuse. The program will increase the quantity and variety of non-traditional faith-based and community providers.

“More than 10,000 youth struggling with substance abuse problems in California received treatment and recovery services thanks to the first grant in 2004,” said Renée Zito, director of the California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs. “We are pleased to receive this year’s grant which will allow the department to expand into rural communities and focus on methamphetamine abuse.”

In Los Angeles County in 2004 and 2005, methamphetamine ranked third as the primary drug of abuse for youth clients admitted into treatment. Of the 7,400 people in the Sacramento treatment system, 11 percent fall into the adolescent age range. In Tehama County, methamphetamine admissions have increased 10 percent between 2002 and 2005.

Access to Recovery is part of President Bush’s \$98 million initiative to provide people seeking treatment for alcohol and drug addiction the resources to choose from a broad array of clinical treatment and recovery support services, which include community-based and spiritual services. Grants were also awarded to 18 states, five tribal organizations, and the District of Columbia.

For more information about California’s alcohol and drug prevention and treatment programs, log on to <http://www.adp.ca.gov/>.

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